

Claims

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1. A component (1) with an internal conductor (3), which is so configured that it is ruptured at a predetermined position (4) whilst forming an arc (10) if predetermined current/voltage conditions occur at the terminals (6, 7) of the component (1), characterised in that a circuit element (8) is so arranged in the component (1) that an arc (10) formed at the predetermined position (4) can act on the circuit element (8) such that the circuit element (8) alters its electrical properties.
2. A component as claimed in claim 1, characterised in that the component (1) is a layered component, the conductor (3) and the circuit element (8) being constituted by structured layers on a substrate (2).
3. A component as claimed in claim 1 or 2, characterised in that the component (1) has two terminals (6, 7) and that the internal conductor (3) and the circuit element (8) are connected between the two terminals (6, 7).
4. A component as claimed in one of claims 1-3, characterised in that the circuit element is a two-pole component, which alters its electrical resistance under the action of the arc.
5. A component as claimed in one of claims 1-3 characterised in that the circuit element is a second conductor (8), which is ruptured under the action of the arc (10).

6. A component as claimed in claim 5, characterised in that the second conductor (8) crosses the internal conductor (3) at the predetermined position (4).
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7. A component as claimed in claim 5 or 6, characterised in that a resistive element (9) is connected in the component (1) in parallel with the second conductor (8), on which the arc (10) can act.
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8. A component as claimed in claim 7, characterised in that the internal conductor (3), which is ruptured to form an arc (10), is connected in series with the parallel circuit comprising the circuit element (8) and resistive element (9).
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9. A component as claimed in claim 8 for use as a fuse component, characterised in that the internal conductor (3) is ruptured to form an arc (10) if a current through the conductor exceeds a maximum value for an associated maximum period of time.
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10. A fuse component as claimed in claim 9, characterised in that the resistive element (9), which is connected in parallel with the second conductor, has a resistance between 5Ω and 20Ω .
11. A fuse component as claimed in claim 9 or 10, characterised in that the internal conductor (3) includes a fusible conductor.
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12. A fuse component as claimed in one of claims 9 to 11, characterised in that the internal conductor (3) and the second conductor (8) and the resistive element (9) are constituted by structured layers on a substrate

(2), the internal conductor (3) being arranged above a section of the second conductor (8) and separated from it by an electrically insulating layer.